

ORDINANCE 73 - 2010

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF READING CODIFIED ORDINANCES CHAPTER 2 ANIMALS  
SECTION 2-111 ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES BY ADDING #4 REMOVAL OF  
MEMBERS**

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF READING HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** Amending the City of Reading Codified Ordinances Chapter 2 Animals Section 2-117 Animal Control Board Powers and Duties by adding the removal process for members of the Animal Control Board as follows:

**4. Removal of Members** - Any member may be removed for misconduct or neglect of duty or for other just cause by a majority vote of Council taken after the member has received fifteen days advance notice of the intent to take such vote. Failure of a member to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board will constitute grounds for immediate removal from the Board by City Council. Failure of a member to attend at least 50% of the regular meetings of the Board in a calendar year will constitute grounds for immediate removal from the Board by City Council. The Chairperson of the Board shall inform the City Clerk in writing when a member has failed to comply with this attendance policy. Following such notification, City Council may vote to remove the member and seek applicants to fill the vacant position.

**SECTION 2.** All other parts of the Ordinance remain unchanged.

**SECTION 3.** This Ordinance shall be effective in ten (10) days, in accordance with Charter Section 219.

Adopted Sept 27, 2010

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

I, LINDA A. KELLEHER, City Clerk of the City of Reading, Pa., do hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original Ordinance passed by the Council of the City of Reading, on the 27 day of Sept, A. D. 20 10. Witness my hand and seal of the said City this 27 day of Sept, A. D. 20 10.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

Submitted to Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 9/28/10

Received by the Mayor's Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 9/28/10

9/28/10

8<sup>00</sup>

Vetoed by Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

EXHIBIT A

CHAPTER 2  
ANIMALS  
PART 1  
ANIMAL CONTROL

- §2-101. Purposes
- §2-102. Definitions
- §2-103. Nuisances
- §2-104. Keeping of Exotic Animals, Domestic Agricultural Animal, or Native Wildlife Animals
- §2-105. Caring for Animals
- §2-106. Sanitation
- §2-107. Restraining and Confinement Generally
- §2-108. Restraint of Guard Dogs
- §2-109. Restraining of Dangerous or Aggressive Dogs
- §2-110. Property Owners May Impound
- §2-111. Return of Animal to Owner
- §2-112. Disposition of Large Animals
- §2-113. Dangerous Dog and/or Aggressive Dog Permits
- §2-114. Impoundment
- §2-115. Notice to Owner and Redemption
- §2-116. Animal Control Board Established
- §2-117. Animal Control Board; Powers and Duties
- §2-118. Sanctions and Remedies
- §2-119. Appeals
- §2-120. Enforcement
- §2-121. Violations and Penalties

PART 2  
PIGEONS

- §2-201. Coop Size and Number of Pigeons
- §2-202. Sanitary Maintenance; Loud Noises Prohibited
- §2-203. Feeding Prohibited
- §2-204. Human Disposition of Pigeons at Large
- §2-205. Penalty

Cruelty to Animals - see 18 Pa.C.S.A. §511.  
Dog Law of 1982 -1- 3 P.S. 45901 *et seq.*

**PART 11**  
**ANIMAL CONTROL**

**§2-101. Purpose.**

The purpose of this Part is to promote the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Reading and to ensure the humane treatment of animals by regulating the care and control of animals within the City.

(Ord. 72-2005, 11/15/2005, §1)

**§2-102. Definitions.**

When used in this Part, the following words, terms, and phrases, and their derivations, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this Section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

**ANIMAL** -- Construed in a broad sense to include not only mammals, but also birds, reptiles and insects.

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER** - A City employee or agent authorized to enforce the City of Reading Codified Ordinances, an employee of the designated animal control authority or agent of the City, designated by the Mayor to administer and enforce the licensing/permit, inspection and enforcement requirements contained within this Part.

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL** - any establishment maintained and operated by a licensed veterinarian for surgery, diagnosis, and treatment of animal diseases and injuries.

**ANIMAL NUISANCE** - any nuisance arising out of the keeping, maintaining or owning of, or failure to exercise sufficient control of, an animal.

**ANIMAL SHELTER** - any facility operated by the City or designated animal control authority for the temporary care, confinement and detention of animals and for the humane euthanasia and other disposition of animals. The term shall also include any private facility authorized by the Mayor or his designee to impound, confine, detain, care for or destroy any animal.

**AT LARGE** - an animal is off the premises of the owner, and not on a leash or otherwise under the immediate control of a person physically capable of restraining the animal.

**ATTACK** - the deliberate action of a dog whether or not in response to a command by its owner, to bite, to seize with its teeth or to pursue any human, animate or inanimate object, with obvious intent to destroy, kill, wound, injure or otherwise harm the object of its action. All attacks shall be reported to the City of Reading Health Officer within 48 hours (see Chapter 10 Health and Safety Section 10-110).

**CRUELTY** - any act of omission whereby unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death of an animal is caused or permitted, including failure to provide proper drink, air, space, shelter or



protection from the elements, a sanitary and safe living environment, veterinary care or nutritious food is siphoned quantity. In the case of activities where physical pain is necessarily caused, such as medical and scientific research, food processing, customary and normal veterinary and agricultural husbandry practices, pest elimination, and animal training and hunting, "cruelty" shall mean a failure to employ the most humane method reasonably available.

**DESIGNATED ANIMAL CONTROL AUTHORITY** - agency that has a contract with the City of Reading for animal control.

**DOG, DANGEROUS** - any dog as defined in 3 P.S. 459-502-A(1).

**DOG, AGGRESSIVE** - shall include any or all of the following, except police dogs or guard dogs acting under the supervision of a police officer or certified trained dog handler, or certified service dogs:

Any dog which bites, inflicts injury, assaults or otherwise attacks a human being or a domestic animal without provocation; or

Any dog which, without provocation, approaches in a threatening or terrorizing manner, any person or domestic animal upon the streets, sidewalks or any public grounds or places; or

Any dog which is trained to attack or cause injury or to otherwise endanger the safety of human beings or domestic animals, or any dog which has a history of attacking or propensity to attack people or domestic animals without provocation.

All bites and/or attacks shall be reported to the City's Health Officer within 48 hours (see Chapter 10 Health and Safety Section 10-110).

**DISPOSITION** - adoption, quarantine, voluntary or involuntary custodianship or placement, or euthanasia humanely administered to an animal. "Disposition" includes placement or sale of an animal to the general public, or removal of an animal from any pet shop to any other location.

**DOMESTIC COMPANION ANIMAL** - any non-wildlife or non-exotic species altered through controlled breeding for the primary purpose of human companionship and serving no widely recognized agricultural, farming use or working purposes.

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL ANIMAL** - any non-wildlife or non-exotic species altered through controlled breeding for the primary purpose of agricultural use or farming purposes are strictly prohibited.

**EXEMPT EXOTIC ANIMAL** - any non-domestic animal not native to Pennsylvania routinely offered for sale by pet stores within Pennsylvania, non-poisonous reptiles not exceeding a maximum length of 60 inches at maturity, non-poisonous fish, and nonpoisonous amphibians not requiring State, Federal, or City permitting.

**EXOTIC ANIMAL** - any rare or unusual animal pet or an animal kept as a pet which is not commonly thought of as a pet – may also be a species which is not-indigenous to the locale including but not limited to alligators, crocodiles, foxes, tortoises, skunks, raccoons, chinchillas, wild felines, snakes, lizards, scorpions, and non-human primates

**GUARD or ATTACK DOG** - a dog trained to attack on command or to protect persons or property, and who will cease to attack upon command.

**HEEL** - the animal is directly behind or next to a person and obedient to that person's command.

**IMPOUNDMENT** - the taking into custody of an animal by any police officer, animal control officer, or any authorized representative thereof.

**KENNEL** - any premises wherein any person engages in the business of boarding, breeding, buying, letting for hire, training for a fee or selling dogs or cats.

**MUZZLE** - a device constructed of strong, soft material or of metal, designed to fasten over the mouth of an animal to prevent the animal from biting any person or other animal.

**OFFICER** -- Police officer and/or duly appointed Animal Control Officer.

**OWNER** - any person having temporary or permanent custody of, sheltering or having charge of, harboring, exercising control over, or having property rights to, any animal covered by this Part. An animal shall be deemed to be harbored if it is fed or sheltered for 3 or more consecutive days.

**NATIVE WILDLIFE ANIMAL** - all non-domestic animals naturally occurring in the wild within the borders of Pennsylvania.

**PERSON** -- Any individual, partnership, association, corporation, company, firm, institution, trustee, estate, trust, any private entity or public entity as well as all officers, agents, servants, employees or others acting for any of the same, and shall be taken as applying in the singular or plural as the case may require.

**PUBLIC NUISANCE ANIMAL** - any animal that unreasonably annoys humans, endangers the life or health of person or other animals, or substantially interferes with the rights of citizens, other than their owners, to enjoyment of life or property.

The term "public nuisance animal" shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Any animal that is found running at large.
- (2) Any dog or cat in any section of a park or public recreation area unless the dog or cat is controlled by a leash or similar physical restraint.

- (3) Any animal that damages any property other than that of its owner.
- (4) Any animal that makes disturbing noises, including, but not limited to, continued and repeated howling, barking, whining, or other utterances causing unreasonable annoyance, disturbance or discomfort to neighbors or others in close proximity to the premises where the animal is kept or harbored shall be governed by the City of Reading Codified Ordinance Chapter 10, Part 2, "Noise Control," §10-204.
- (5) Any animal that causes fouling of the air by noxious or offensive odors and thereby creates unreasonable annoyance or discomfort to neighbors or others in close proximity to the premises where the animal is kept or harbored.
- (6) Any animal in heat that is not confined so as to prevent attraction or contact with other animals.
- (7) Any animal, whether or not on the property of its owner, that without provocation, molests, attacks, or otherwise interferes with the freedom of movement of persons in a public right-of-way.
- (8) Any animal that chases motor vehicles in a public right-of-way.
- (9) Any animal that attacks domestic animals.
- (10) Any animal that causes unsanitary conditions in enclosures or surroundings where the animal is kept or harbored.
- (11) Any animal that is offensive or dangerous to the public health, safety or welfare by virtue of the number of animals maintained at a single residence or the inadequacy of the facilities.

**SANITARY** - a condition of good order and cleanliness to minimize the possibility of disease transmission.

**UNDER RESTRAINT** - an animal is secured by a leash, lead under the control of a person physically capable of restraining the animal and obedient to that person's commands, or securely enclosed within the real property limits of the owner's premises.

**VICIOUS or DANGEROUS ANIMAL** - any animal that attacks, bites, or physically injures human beings, domestic animals, or livestock without provocation or which, because of temperament or training, has a known propensity to attack, bite, or physically injure human beings, domestic animals, or livestock. Any wild animal or any animal that without provocation has bitten or attacked a human being or other animal shall be prima facie presumed vicious or dangerous. All attacks and bites must be reported to the City's Health Officer within 48 hours (see Chapter 10 Health and Safety Section 10-110).

#### **§2-103. Nuisances.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to keep any animal on any property located within the incorporated limits of the City when the keeping of such animal constitutes a public nuisance or menace to public health or safety.

(Ord. 72-2005, 11/14/2005, §1)

**§2-104. Keeping of Exotic Animals, Domestic Agricultural Animal, or Native Wildlife Animal.**

It shall be unlawful for anyone to own, harbor or permit at large any exotic animal, domestic agricultural animal or native wildlife animal within the City without a permit issued by the Animal Control Board. Such permit shall be given only if it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board that the animal will not constitute a threat to public health or safety.

The application for such permit shall be on a form supplied by the City and shall be submitted to the City Clerks Office along with a fee in the amount of \$75.00 for the first calendar year. The fee shall be disbursed \$40.00 to the designated animal control authority and \$35.00 to the City to cover the costs of inspections and administration. For subsequent years the fee shall be \$40 and will be disbursed \$20 to the designated animal control authority and \$20 to the City to cover costs.

The fee is levied per household, not per exotic animal.

**§2-105. Caring for Animals.**

PA Code Animal Regulations - 18 Pa.C.S. §5511.

**§2-106. Sanitation.**

1. All persons shall be responsible for the sanitary maintenance of the premises on which any animals are housed, maintained or kenneled.
2. Animal shelters, or areas in which animals are maintained, shall be permitted only as approved by the Health Officer. Animal shelters shall not be constructed or located in such a manner that it creates a health hazard or nuisance to the adjoining property owners.
3. People owning, harboring or keeping an animal within the City shall NOT permit any waste matter from the animal to collect and remain on the property of the owner or custodian, or on the property of others so as to cause or create an unhealthy, unsanitary, dangerous or offensive living condition on the owner's or custodian's property, or to abutting property of others.
4. Excess animal food shall not be allowed to accumulate in such a manner as to create a food source for bacteria, insects or rodents.
5. No person shall maintain, transport or carry any animal or pet in any eating and drinking establishment, food manufacturing or food service facility, except trained certified service dogs
6. Owners of leashed or unleashed animals shall be responsible for the removal and disposal of fecal matter deposited by his animal anywhere within the City.

**§2-107. Restraining and Confinement Generally.**

1. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dangerous dog and/or aggressive dog to fail to keep such dangerous dog and/or aggressive dog under restraint or to permit such dangerous dog and/or aggressive dog to run at large upon the streets and public ways of the City.
2. Any dog, while on a street, sidewalk, public way or in any park, public square, or other public space, or upon any private property without the consent of the owner, shall be secured

by a leash or chain of sufficient tensile strength to restrain the particular dog, or shall be at heel and securely muzzled.

3. No owner or custodian of any animal shall fail to exercise proper care and control of such animal to prevent the same from becoming a public nuisance.

4. Every female dog in heat shall be confined to the residence of the owner or keeper in such a manner that such female dog cannot come into contact with another animal except for planned breeding.

#### **§2-108. Restraint of Guard Dogs.**

1. Every owner of a guard or attack dog shall keep such dog confined in a building, compartment or other enclosure. Any such enclosure shall be completely surrounded by a fence at least 6 feet in height and shall be topped with an anticleimbing device constructed of angle metal braces with at least three strands of equally separated barbed wire stretched between them.

2. All anticleimbing devices shall extend inward at an angle of not less than 45 degrees nor more than 90 degrees when measured from the perpendicular.

3. The areas of confinement shall all have gates and entrances thereto securely closed and locked, and all fences properly maintained and escape proof.

4. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to dogs owned or controlled by government law enforcement agencies.

#### **§2-109. Restraining of Dangerous Dogs or Aggressive Dogs.**

Every dangerous dog or aggressive dog shall be confined by its owner or authorized agent of its owner to the residence of the owner or keeper *in accordance with Pennsylvania Title 3 Agriculture Chapter 8 Dog Law § 459-502*. Such residence shall be conspicuously posted with a placard provided by the issuing office. Whenever off the premises of its owner, the dog shall be securely muzzled and restrained with a chain having a minimal tensile strength of 300 pounds and not more than 3 feet in length or caged. Every person harboring a dangerous dog or aggressive dog is charged with an affirmative duty to confine the animal in such way that children do not have access to such animal.

1. Upon licensing a vicious or dangerous dog, the owner shall display, in a conspicuous manner, a sign on his or her premises warning that there is a vicious dog on the premises. The sign shall be visible and legible from the sidewalk and street.

2. If the animal is kept outdoors, the owner shall properly confine the dog in a pen or structure with secure sides and a secure top. The pen shall be no less than six (6) feet high and contain no less than fifty (50) square feet of ground space. All pens shall comply with city zoning guidelines so as not to be offensive to the neighboring residents.

3. Every person harboring a dangerous dog or aggressive dog is charged with an affirmative duty to confine the animal in such way that children do not have access to such animal.

4. No person owning or harboring a dangerous or vicious dog shall permit such dog to go beyond the confined area of such person's premises unless the dog is securely leashed and muzzled. The leash shall not be longer than three (3) feet. Retractable or flexi-leads are not

allowed. The leash shall be controlled by an adult or by a person physically capable of controlling the dog.

5. Once a dog is deemed to be dangerous; it shall be neutered or spayed so as not to propagate vicious characteristics inherent in the progeny of the dangerous dog.

**§2-110. Property Owners May Impound.**

Any person finding an animal at large upon his property may remove the same to any animal shelter that will take possession of the animal. If no such shelter is available, the property owner may hold the animal in his own possession, and as soon as possible, notify the Animal Control Officer. The property owner shall provide a description of the animal and the name of the owner if known. The Department shall dispatch an animal control officer to take possession of the animal.

**§2-111. Return of Animal to Owner.**

If the name of the owner or custodian of an animal found at large is known or can be obtained with reasonable dispatch, the Animal Control Officer shall make attempts to notify the owner.

**§2-112. Disposition of Large Animals.**

Any animal control officer or other designated person on call who removes a large animal such as a horse, cow, mule or any other animal not acceptable by any animal hospital or shelter shall be authorized to call a trucking firm or company which shall convey the animal to a farm or other appropriate facility that has an agreement with the City to accept such animals. The disposition of any animal removed to a facility other than an animal hospital or shelter shall be handled in the same manner as though the animal were confined in an animal hospital or shelter. The City and Animal Shelter are authorized, under the terms of this Part, to bill the owner of the animal for any charges incurred.

**§2-113. Dangerous Dog and/or Aggressive Dog Permits.**

1. Any person owning a dangerous or aggressive dog must register the dog with the animal control agency contracted by the City of Reading to enforce the provisions of this ordinance and pay a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for such registration to the designated Animal Control Authority.

The owner must provide proof at the time of registration that:

A. The home-owner's insurance policy for the residence in which the dangerous dog is housed contains a rider or a liability clause for dangerous dogs;

B. The dog's rabies vaccination status is current;

C. The dog is licensed for the current year; and

D. The dog is micro-chipped with a permanent ID.

Every dog for which the owner is required to obtain a permit must wear a valid permit tag at all times when the animal is off the premises of its owner. The permit tag shall be issued the Animal Control Authority and be made of highly visible material with the words "dangerous dog" prominently displayed upon it.

## **APPEAL PROCEDURE**

Within fourteen (14) days of the date of the notice of the police or animal control officer's decision that a dog is dangerous, the owner of the dog may appeal the decision to the Animal Control Board. The owner of the dog shall send notice of his/her intent to appeal by certified mail to the Animal Control Board, with copies to the Chief of Police and Clerk of City. If such an appeal is filed, a hearing shall be commenced within three (3) weeks of its filing. Within five days of the close of the appeal hearing, the Animal Control Board shall determine whether to uphold or reverse the decision of the police or health officer.

The determination of the Animal Control Board shall be final and binding. The dog shall be kept either in a secure enclosure or shall be impounded at an animal shelter during the appeal process. Any and all costs for the impounding of the dog shall be borne by the owner unless otherwise determined by the Animal Control Board.

### **§2-114. Impoundment.**

1. In addition to any other remedies provided in this Part, an Animal Control Officer or a Police Officer may seize, impound and humanely confine any of the following animals in accordance with Pennsylvania Title 3 Agriculture Chapter 8 Dog Law :

- A. Any dog without a valid permit tag or license.
- B. Any animal at large.
- C. Any animal constituting a public nuisance or considered a danger to the public.
- D. Any animal that is in violation of any quarantine or confinement order of a Health Officer.
- E. Any unattended animal that is ill, injured or otherwise in need of care.
- F. Any animal that is reasonably believed to have been abused or neglected.
- G. Any animal that is reasonably suspected of having rabies.
- H. Any animal that is charged with being potentially dangerous, aggressive or displays aggressive behavior where an Animal Control Officer, the Animal Control Board, or the Mayor determines that there is a threat to public health and safety.
- I. Any animal that a court of competent jurisdiction has ordered impounded or destroyed.
- J. Any animal that is considered unattended or abandoned, as in situations where the owner is deceased, has been arrested or evicted from his regular place of residence.
- K. Any exotic animal, domestic agricultural animal, or native wildlife animal without a valid permit.

2. An Animal Control Officer or Police Officer may also, or in lieu of impoundment, issue to the owner a citation.

### **§2-115. Notice to Owner and Redemption.**

1. Upon impoundment of an animal, the designated Animal Control Authority shall immediately attempt to notify the owner by telephone or certified mail. The owner shall also be advised that the failure to claim the animal within a specified period of time may result in the disposition of the animal.
2. An owner reclaiming an impounded animal shall pay a fee of \$25 for each day the animal has been impounded. The daily rate charged for any subsequent impoundment occurring within 12



months shall be double that which was charged for each day of confinement during the first impoundment.

3. Any animal not reclaimed by its owner within 48 hours shall become the property of the City and shall be placed for adoption in a suitable home or euthanized in a manner prescribed by the designated Animal Control Authority.

4. Any dangerous dog or aggressive dog impounded shall not be redeemed by the owner or adopted by any other person until all applicable permit fees imposed by this Part shall be paid and proof thereof shall be presented to the designated Animal Control Authority.

#### **§2-116. Animal Control Board Established.**

1. There is hereby established a City Animal Control Board.

2. The Mayor shall appoint five members plus two alternates subject to confirmation by City Council. The two alternate members shall represent the community at large and shall be empowered to sit on the Board in the absence of a Board member. In the event of the absence of one Board member, the alternate with the greatest length of service in the position will serve. In the absence of two Board members both alternates will serve. In the absence of both alternates, the Mayor may designate a temporary alternate at large.

One of the five regular appointees shall be designated as chairperson by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by Council.

A. Two members shall be appointed as representatives of the community at large.

B. Two members shall be appointed representatives of animal humane societies and animal shelters.

C. One member shall be appointed as a representative of private veterinarians or veterinary hospitals.

D. Two alternates shall be appointed as representatives of the community at large.

3. The term of each member shall be 3 years, or until a successor takes office.

#### **§2-117. Animal Control Board; Powers and Duties.**

1. The Animal Control Board is authorized to prepare written rules and regulations to govern its operations and the conduct of hearings before it. The rules and regulations shall become effective upon the approval, by resolution, of the City Council. Three copies of the Board's rules and regulations shall be available for inspection by the public in the Office of the City Clerk.

2. The Board shall also have the authority to do the following:

A. Receive requests for permission to own exotic animals, domestic agricultural animals, and native wildlife animals; conduct an investigation it deems proper and hold hearings in conjunction with such investigation. The Board may grant, in writing, special permission for the keeping of exotic animals, domestic agricultural animals, and native wildlife animals and impose any condition on such permission that it deems necessary to protect the animal, owner, and the general public.

B. Make determinations of aggressive dogs as defined under "Definitions," §2-102.

3. The Board shall meet at the call of the Chairperson to take the following actions:

A. Prepare and present the Animal Control Board budget to the Director of Finance.



B. Recommend to the City Council changes in the law regarding the control of animals.

*4. Removal of Members - Any member may be removed for misconduct or neglect of duty or for other just cause by a majority vote of Council taken after the member has received fifteen days advance notice of the intent to take such vote. Failure of a member to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board will constitute grounds for immediate removal from the Board by City Council. Failure of a member to attend at least 50% of the regular meetings of the Board in a calendar year will constitute grounds for immediate removal from the Board by City Council. The Chairperson of the Board shall inform the City Clerk in writing when a member has failed to comply with this attendance policy. Following such notification, City Council may vote to remove the member and seek applicants to fill the vacant position.*

**§2-118. Sanctions and Remedies.**

1. Obedience training for the animal(s) in question.
2. Muzzling of an animal while off the property of the owner.
3. Confinement of an animal indoors.
4. Confinement of an animal in a secure enclosure.
5. Reduction of the number of animals kept at any one location.
6. Removal of an animal from the custody of the animal's owner or custodian in cases of neglect or cruelty.
7. The sterilization of an animal.
8. A ban on maintaining other animals in the City.
9. Any other measure or sanction designed to eliminate a violation, prevent future violations, or protect the health and safety of the public.
10. Any fees previously paid nonrefundable.

**§2-119. Appeals.**

Any person aggrieved by any decision of an Animal Control Board may appeal the same to the Berks County Court of Common Pleas.

**§2-120. Enforcement.**

Animal Control Officers or other designees of the Mayor shall be the enforcement officials for this Part. These officials, along with Police Officers, shall have the authority to act on behalf of the City and the Animal Control Board in investigating complaints, impounding and destroying animals, issuing citations, and taking other lawful actions as required to enforce the provisions of this Part. It shall be a violation of this Part to interfere with any Animal Control Officer or other enforcement official in the performance of his duties.

**§2-121. Violations and Penalties.**

1. It shall be violation of the Part to:
  - A. Fail to comply with any provision of this Part.
  - B. Fail to comply with any lawful order of the Animal Control Board, an Animal

Control Officer, or Police Officer unless such order is lawfully stayed or reversed.

2. Any person who shall violate any provision of this Part shall be, upon conviction thereof, sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 plus costs; and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

3. Notwithstanding any other penalties imposed by this Section of this Part, any person who violates any provision of this Part and said violation involves a dangerous dog or aggressive dog (as defined in §2-102 herein), shall be subject to a minimum fine of \$500 to a maximum of \$1,000 plus costs and other fees and penalties included within the terms of this Part and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. All fines collected shall be forwarded to the designated Animal Control Authority to cover administrative expenses.

(Ord. 72-2005, 11/14/2005, §1)

## **PART 22 PIGEONS**

### **§2-201. Coop Size and Number of Pigeons.**

No person, firm or corporation shall keep, maintain or harbor any pigeons within the City in a suitable house or coop which is more than 800 cubic feet in size and not more than 100 pigeons shall be kept by any one person, firm or corporation at any time. Pigeon houses or coops may also have an attached enclosed runway, but all structures for keeping the pigeons shall be constructed so as to keep the pigeons properly confined and prevent their flying about.

### **§2-202. Sanitary Maintenance; Loud Noises Prohibited.**

Any pigeon houses, coops or runways shall be maintained in such proper sanitary conditions as to avoid offensive odors and no pigeons shall be kept which create any loud and excessive noises.

### **§2-203. Feeding Prohibited.**

No person shall intentionally feed pigeons at large.

### **§2-204. Humane Disposition of Pigeons at Large.**

Pigeons at large and not branded may be captured and destroyed by any humane means by any representative of the Property Improvement Division of the of the Police Department, by the City's animal control authority or by any property owner of the City upon whose property may such pigeon shall be found at large.

### **§2-205. Penalty.**

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate this Part shall be, upon conviction thereof sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

(Ord. 31-1965, 7/7/1965, §5; as amended by Ord. 14-2001, 5/29/2001)